

License Reciprocity FAQ

Though the term "reciprocity" is used widely across the country, the true meaning of the term is often overlooked. Reciprocity is a system whereby a recommendation for licensure from a state-approved education training program at an accredited college or university is recognized in another state. The reciprocity is governed by the Interstate Agreement developed by the [National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification \(NASDTEC\)](#).

Reciprocity is frequently misunderstood.

- Reciprocity does not guarantee that a license in one state can be "traded in" for a license in another state.
- Reciprocity does not guarantee that an educator license from one state is recognized by another state.
- Decisions of licensure through reciprocity vary from state to state and are not governed by the Interstate Agreement.

What does it mean to "apply under the rules of reciprocity"?

Licensing regulations allow the Licensing Office to review the credentials of applicants from other states/ countries under these conditions:

- If the candidate has graduated from a state-approved educator preparation program in another state and received a recommendation for licensure from that institution for that state. *

Or

- If a candidate has a current, comparable license (teacher or administrator) from a state with which Vermont has signed the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement provided the candidate can demonstrate at least 3 years of successful work in a school within the past 7 years in the licensure endorsement or subject area. *
 - Those who do not meet this condition can obtain licensure through Vermont's Alternative Route: The Peer Review process.

This rule includes candidates who have been issued licenses in foreign countries. These candidates must also demonstrate they meet the equivalent degree requirements specified in the endorsement competencies via an official document credentialing organization. Please contact the Licensing Office for more information if you obtained your education or educator license in a foreign country.

***If you meet these conditions, you may apply and complete the Initial Vermont Educator License application either online or by downloading an application form, please see this link for more info: <http://education.vermont.gov/licensing/become-an-educator/traditional-route>.**

What is the Interstate Agreement?

The Interstate Agreement was originally developed by NASDTEC to assist teachers and other educators who completed state approved teacher education programs to obtain an educator license in another state. This Agreement represents the conditions under which interstate reciprocity will occur between member states. Not all states have signed the Agreement, and not all states participate in all educator categories. Learn more about the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement.

Does Vermont participate in all educator categories of the Interstate Agreement?

Yes. Vermont participates in the categories of teacher and administrator. Those applying for categories not covered under the Agreement (i.e. “support services”) may apply for Vermont licensure through a [transcript review](#) process:

- Business Education
- Career Technical Education
- Career Technical Education Special Needs Coordinator
- Design and Technology Education
- Driver and Traffic Safety Education
- Educational Technology Specialist
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Health Education (UNTIL October, 2015)
- Library Media Specialist
- School Counselor
- School Nurse / Associate School Nurse
- School Psychologist

Which states have signed the Interstate Agreement with Vermont?

Vermont participates with all other states (plus the District of Columbia) as well as Guam and Puerto Rico in the teacher category, and 30 states plus the District of Columbia in the administrator category. Vermont does not participate in the support services and vocational categories.

The following states or jurisdictions are members of the Interstate Agreement and have signed an agreement with Vermont regarding the **reciprocity for administrators**.

| | | |
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| Alabama | Kansas | Oregon |
| Alaska | Louisiana | Pennsylvania |
| Arizona | Maine | Rhode Island |
| Colorado | Maryland | South Carolina |
| Delaware | Minnesota | South Dakota |
| District of Columbia | New Jersey | Tennessee |
| Florida | New Mexico | Texas |
| Georgia | New York | Utah |
| Illinois | North Carolina | Virginia |
| Indiana | Ohio | Washington |
| Iowa | Oklahoma | Wyoming |

Will I qualify for a Vermont educator license via reciprocity?

The Licensing Office can make this determination after we receive a [completed application](#) from you. Determinations for reciprocity are not made via phone or e-mailed inquiries.

Can I qualify for a Vermont license if I am seeking licensure in a category not already listed like non-instructional support personnel, i.e. school nurse?

Yes. If you are a Support services professional such as: Business Education, Career Technical Education, Career Technical Education Special Needs Coordinator, Design and Technology Education, Driver and Traffic Safety Education (Full endorsement ONLY), Educational Technology Specialist, Family and Consumer Sciences, Health Education (UNTIL October, 2015), Library Media Specialist, School Psychologist, Driver and Traffic Safety Education, School Nurse, School Psychologist, or are seeking licensure in a vocational/ technical area. Vermont has not signed this category on the Interstate Agreement. The Office of Educator Licensing will evaluate your application via a [transcript review](#).

Can I apply for an educator license if I have completed a college degree (bachelor or masters), but did not attend a state-approved educator preparation program?

Yes. If you are a Graduate of a Vermont college or university and have the required level of degree (bachelor or masters in the content area or a related field) for the license but did not complete the licensure program **OR** did not receive a recommendation for licensure and do not have a license from another state with the required 3 of the past 7 years of experience, you may complete Vermont's Alternative Licensing Route called [Peer Review](#).

What is NASDTEC?

The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) was organized in 1928 to facilitate educator licensing from state to state, and to encourage communication between state educator licensing offices, federal agencies, national organizations, and professional educators. [Learn more about NASDTEC](#).

I've read all the instructions carefully and still have questions. Can I call the Licensing Office?

Yes. Licensing Assistants are available Monday – Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Contacting the Licensing Office:

E-mail: AOE.LicensingInfo@state.vt.us

Mail to: Office of Educator Licensing
Vermont Agency of Education
219 North Main St., Suite 402
Barre, Vermont 05641

Web page: education.vermont.gov/licensing

Call the Licensing Help Line:

Telephone: (802) 479 - 1700
Monday through Friday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM